IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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) I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as EXPRESS MAIL in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This IDS is submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) within either of the following time periods, whichever occurs last:

- (a) within three months of either the filing date of the national application or the date of entry into the national stage; or
- (b) before the mailing date of first office action on the merits (i.e., not including actions such as restriction requirements).

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation) together with copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the citation of any reference on Form PTO-1449 does not constitute an admission that the reference qualifies as prior art.

It is requested that the information disclosed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R.§§1.16-1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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Registration No. 29,367

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Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 8-88) Patent and Trademark Office			Attorney Docket No.: 3408.	Serial No.:					
	ATION DISCLOSURE CITA			Applicant: Takano et al.					
(Use several sheets if necessary)			Filing Date: 11-19-03		Group:				
U.S. PATI	ENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Date	Name		Class	Class Subclass		Filing Date If Appropriate	
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FOREIGN	N PATENT DOCUMENTS								
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	Document Number	Date	Country		Class	Subclass	Yes	No	
	2001-229249	Aug. 24, 20001	Japan				Abs.		
	2001-306718	Nov. 2, 2001	Japan	,			Abs.		
	2002-298072	Oct. 11, 2002	Japan				Abs.		
OTHER D	DOCUMENTS (Including Aut	thor, Title, Date, Pe	ertinent Page	es, Etc.)					

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